TIMES-VIRGINIAN

In the Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt

Appomattox, Virginia

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BIBLE VERSE TO STUDY

"All that the Lord hath spoken we will do"—Exodus 19:8

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BABY BOOM CONTINUES

Statistics for 1955 show that an all-time record will be set for births this year. It might be interesting to some people to note that the summer months, especially August, are the months in which the highest birth rate occurs during the year.

No one has explained exactly why this is, but, year after year, August makes an excellent showing in births. The rate of births for 1955 is already one percent of the 1954 rate, and it is estimated that almost 400,000 babies will be born this month.

The booming birth rate means a good outlook for the business future, since the larger the population, the larger the potential demand for goods. But the baby boom also means that the shortage of educational facilities will probably continue to plague this country for many years to come.

The baby boom of World War II has already affected the schools and is causing the current severe shortage. World War II babies are about ready to emerge from school and enter the business world, marry, create new families and new demands. By 1960, it is estimated that the number of new families and the increased demand will be swelling rapidly.

By 1960, most of the war babies will be between fifteen and twenty years of age, and many of them will be entering upon business careers. This is one of the reasons why economists are optimistic about the business future of this country from 1960 onward.

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WHAT ARE TODAY'S FARM PROBLEMS?

An interesting article recently appeared in the Wall Street Journal concerned with the amount of Government participation in the American farmer's operations. The article appeared in connection with the visit to Iowa of a group of Soviet farmers and pointed out that the Soviet farmers might be surprised at the amount of Government regulation found on American farms.

One of the most interesting features of the article was the explanation how many Corn Belt farmers now take advantage of the Government's price support operation to sell their corn to the Government at a price which is higher than the market price of corn, and then purchase the necessary corn at lower market prices for their own feed.

In other words, many farmers are now building storage sheds for corn, borrowing the money from the Government at whatever the Government decides is a fair price, when that price is higher than the local price (and it usually is), and therefore defeating one of the purposes of the price-support program.

The surplus of corn is built up, and the Government continues to pay an increasing amount for the storage of corn while the farmer makes $1,000 or $2,000 or more, from a corn transaction which is illogical from every economic standpoint.

Surplus crops and storage facilities are a growing problem. The No. 1 farm problem, however, is the steadily dropping income of the farmer. Undoubtly, better coordination and logical loan and storage programs are needed.

On the other hand, until the farmers' income is raised — in line with the trend in other income groups — this problem will remain the No. 1 problem of the Eisenhower Administration.

Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson is attempting to revise many of the country's agricultural policies but we believe the President would do well to appoint an independent group of farm economic experts to study revisions and better coordination of the entire agricultural program. The study should be made and completed within six months and suggestions should be ready for the second session of the 84th Congress.

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MIDDLE EAST ON THE BRINK

Reports from the Middle East indicate that trouble is coming nearer and nearer between the Arabs and Israeli forces. Egypt, particularly, among the Arab states, is adapting an aggressive attitude and placing great emphasis on the strengthening of its armed forces and the acquisition of new and modern military equipment.

In Israel, the recent elections show that the people are turning to more aggressive leaders. The political influence of Menahem Beign and the Harut Party means that friction between Egypt and Israel is likely to increase.

Military observers believe that the Israeli armed forces are now equal or superior to Arab forces. And the Israeli Air Force is expecting delivery of a number of new jet fighters from France, which are said to be superior to anything now in use by a Middle Eastern country. This will insure Israel of air superiority and may turn the balance of power in Israel's favor.

Since the United States is now undertaking programs to provide military equipment to Arab nations, there is a chance that Israel will want to move before these programs begin to be felt. In Britain, there is suspicion that Egypt is actively aiding the terrorists and rioters in North Africa, who are giving the French so much trouble in Morocco and other parts of French North Africa.

THE 1956 OLYMPICS

There is little reason to hide the fact that many American sportsmen, end even some Olympic Games officials and veterans, think Russia is the favorite to win the 1956 Olympic Games.

Such a belief represents no lack of patriotism, or faith in the youth of America, but is based on solid facts, and developments inside the USSR in recent years. The Russians are training millions of athletes in a manner which is not being matched, or even approached, in this country.

In the 1952 games the Russians almost won unofficial team honors because the U. S. entrants were poor in women's events, in track and field, and wrestling, and in certain other classes, where the Russians took most of the honors — and points.

Since 1952 the Russians have made a great progress in other fields, and have developed stars which are sure to give U. S. competitors a run for the money, in our own speciality fields, in Australia next year. The government in this country does not prepare athletes for world contests such as the Olympic Games, so private contributions must be relied upon.

Any citizen is able to contribute by sending his dollar, or check, to the Olympic Games Committee, the address being available at most Post Offices. Competitors in these games are amateurs, contributions, therefore are used to stage eliminations, aid in the search of talent, and to provide athletic equipment.

If our system of producing great athletics is to remain a symbol before the world of democracy, the people of this country will have to give a helping hand between now and 1956. The need is urgent.

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MODERN CIVILIZATION

Sir Winston Churchill, until recently Prime Minister of Great Britain, has received general recognition as a student of history and a writer of repute.

Speaking to a university audience, the war leader of the British people said that "despite anxious, critical and even agonizing moments," modern civilization is "undoubtly a higher form of society than ever prevailed in ancient worlds."

This is a conclusion which many people will dispute. In fact, the stock in trade of some human beings seems to involve the necessity of denouncing the present generation, with the implication that, for some strange reason, men and women have suddenly degraded themselves.

We have no sympathy with such a view. It is apparent, we think, from a study of various civilizations, including habits, customs and civilizations, that the world today is made up of a race of people, on the average, which is more intelligent, more healthy and more spiritual than any other generation of the so-called human race.

WASHINGTON NOTES

WASHINGTON NOTES

PROFITS UP

A list of 574 corporations, reporting on their profits in the first half of the year, shows all but 108 doing better than in the previous year. Only seven operated at a loss, compared with 22 a year ago. Combined, the 574 show a net income after taxes of $4,413,284,796, a gain of 34.7 percent over the $3,275,716,221 reported by the same companies in the first half of 1954.

CORPORATE INCOME TAX

The President's Council of Economic Advisors estimates that the nation's 600,000 corporations are earning at a rate which should bring the Treasury more than $21 million for the year in corporate income taxes. The 35 percent gain in net income registered this year over 1954 is the steepest year-to-year increase since 1950

NOT A CANDIDATE

Averell Harriman, talking with news men in Dublin, Ireland, reiterated his former statement that he does not intend to run for the United States presidency next year. He declared he was backing Adlai Stevenson as Democratic presidential candidate.

RUSSIAN FOREIGN TRADE

Secretary of Commerce Sinclair Weeks has reported that the Soviet Union's interest in non-strategic commodities available here for export is steadily growing.

INSECTS ON FARMS

Destructive insects are build[ing] their numbers on the farms [of the] country. Boll weevils are in[creasing] in the maturing cotton of the land, while grasshopper popu[lations] are becoming heavier in [the] states west of the Mississippi, [accord]ing to the Department of Ag[ricul]ture. European corn borers are seen in the corn-growing [states]. Other pests, such as the alfalfa [wee]vil and the fig wax scale are ing injurious to crops.

GENEVA TALKS

The Big Four Foreign Mi[nisters] will meet at Geneva, Swit[zerland] on October 27, according to a[n] announcement by the French F[oreign] Ministry. The announcement said that the four powers — United States, Great Britain, F[rance] and the Soviet Union — have [agreed] to set up a joint secretariat f[or the] conference, which will handl[e] keeping details.

AIR FORCE SECRETARY

Upon the resignation of Har[old] Talbott as Secretary of [the Air] Force, Donald E. Quarles was [named] by President Eisenhower to [succeed] Talbott, Quarles was sworn i[n under] a recess appointment, subject [to Senate] confirmation. The new [Secre]tary has spent more than 20 [years] in the laboratory and for the two years he has worked [in the] Pentagon on the technical p[hases] of guided missiles and other w[eapons] of the atomic age.

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From where I sit ... *by* Joe Marsh

After-Dinner Speaker Gets His "Deserts"

"Red" Thomas tells about a dinner party he and his Missus went to in Center City last week. He said it was a wonderful party—except for one guest who was a real "know-it-all," right from the start.

Whatever the subject, this fellow considered himself an "expert." Wasn't quiet about it, either. He told different people what automobile to buy, what books to read—even told some who they "just had" to vote for.

When it came time to leave, this fellow must've felt a pang of conscience. He turned to the hostess and said: "I suppose I was a bit outspoken tonight." Quickly she replied, "Of course not. No one could have *out-spoken* you."

From where I sit, it's all right to have opinions as long as you don't try to force them on neighbors. Take those who would deny me an occasional glass of beer simply because they prefer something else. They're welcome to their choice but shouldn't try to force me to be a "party" to it!

Joe Marsh

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COMMENT ON SPORTS

By Pete Fritchie

[The] National League penant race [is] over, this column will deal [sole]ly with the hot American [League] flag battle. It now appears [the] fight is between only four [with] Detroit having succumbed [after] losing five out of six to Cleve[land] and Chicago earlier this month. [At] one time the Tigers managed to [make] a five-team race out of it, even [though] Bucky Harris said all along [he didn't] expect his boys to make a [serious] bid. Strange psychology or [if] the boys did make a race of it [and] they were boys mostly) until August. Some managers like to [build] up — like Marty Marion — [play]ers say they won't win. Maybe [such] approaches can produce a [team]. The reverse psychology of [Harris] did not win it for the Tigers [this] year.

[And] one more word on the bengals. [There] is no reason a team with the [best] hitter, the second best hitter, three of the top runs-batted [in men], plus four hurlers with ten [wins] or more, should not be in the [race] for the penant. The Tigers, on [the basis] of team hitting, should have [won] the fight.

Boston Red Sox were finally [hit] a bit by the New York Yankees [as the] Red Sox killers, recently. [In] the first series Boston had [for] a long time. They dropped [two] of three to the Yanks. From [there] they went on to retake the lead.

Chicago and Cleveland were still very much in it — ahead of Boston, when the Yanks finally climbed back on the top perch. Cleveland's pitching is probably the most dominating factor in the stretch, just as Detroit's pitching weakness cost the Tigers a good chance.

The Bosox have the fire and Ted Williams. It will be a question of whether the Red Sox can take the pressure and still come through. It was an error that whipped Boston in that crucial thirteenth inning of the vital series in New York recently.

New York has been under pressure all along, and has tottered for some time. If the staggers are straightened out by the pitching of recently brought up additions to the staff, the Yanks may yet take their sixth flag in seven years.

Chicago — the sentimental favorites of millions — needs a hustling fighting come-through ball club for the rest of the way to beat out the other three contenders. If the White Sox can pull it off, they'll be the darlings of the largely a trade-in, retread ball club, with a great collection of talent from all directions.

If you're trying to pick a winner, it might be a good idea to wait two more weeks. Then the race will probably be one between just two or three ball clubs. Then you'll have a half, or a third chance, anyhow.

In Fashion Now

Hats for this fall have many shapes, sizes and colors. No matter what the shape of your face, or the type of your body build, you will be able to find a hat which is in style and becoming to you individually all in one.

This cannot be said for many seasons in the past. It has been that when a lady wanted to be in style she had one or two chapeau-shapes to choose from. Millinery designers are beginning to recognize the fact that American women will not have forced upon them unbecoming styles.

New colors and fabrics are quite exciting. Cocktail hats make abundant use of jewels and exotic-looking feathers. Fur trimmed hats are popular again this year. Designers suggest that you combine a hat of one fur, such as beaver, or broadtail, with a coat or jacket of another fur such as mink or acelot.

Veils will be short, the longest ones ending just below the nose.

The over-all color scheme, which has been so popular for the last three seasons, is still in favor. With manufacturers producing such a wide variety of colors in the hat department, it will not be too hard to find a hat the same tone as your new fall or winter suit.

If you buy your winter suit early enough, you will probably be able to order a yard or two of the fabric and have a hat created for you.

Ivey Holland Heads Tree Planting Committee

Appointment of Mr. Ivey Holland as Chairman of the "Plant More Trees" Committee for Appomattox County has been announced by William E. Cooper, of Richmond, Executive Director of Virginia Forests, Inc., whose organization is administering the overall tree planting program.

Cooperating in the program are the Forestry Division of the Virginia Department of Conservation and Development, VPI Extension Service Soil Conservation Service and the Vocational Agricultural Service.

Governor Stanley is spearheading the "Plant More Trees" Program. The Governor, together with the leaders of the forest industry in Virginia, are alarmed that the desirable species of Virginia's forests are being cut more rapidly than they are being replaced. Aware of the high importance of the wood industry to Virginia, the Governor and others are hopeful that this conservation program will help reverse the present trend so that Virginia will have an adquate supply of timber for all purposes in the future.

The Statewide goal is to plant 20 million trees during the planting season of 1955-56, from November through March. The program will extend for three years, with an overall objective of planting 75 million trees during that time. Tree planting goals for each county will be announced later. Trees to be planted include species of pine, cedar and the hardwoods.

Cooper explained that committee chairmen will be named for each of the Virginia counties. Duties of the chairman and his committee will be to help distribute literature and car bumper strips, arrange meetings and demonstrations, make personal contacts and generally arouse interest in the "Plant More Trees" program.

The county committees will also be called upon to assist in promoting the "Keep Virginia Green" and "Tree Farm" programs of Virginia Forests, Inc., both of which have been approved by the cooperating agencies.

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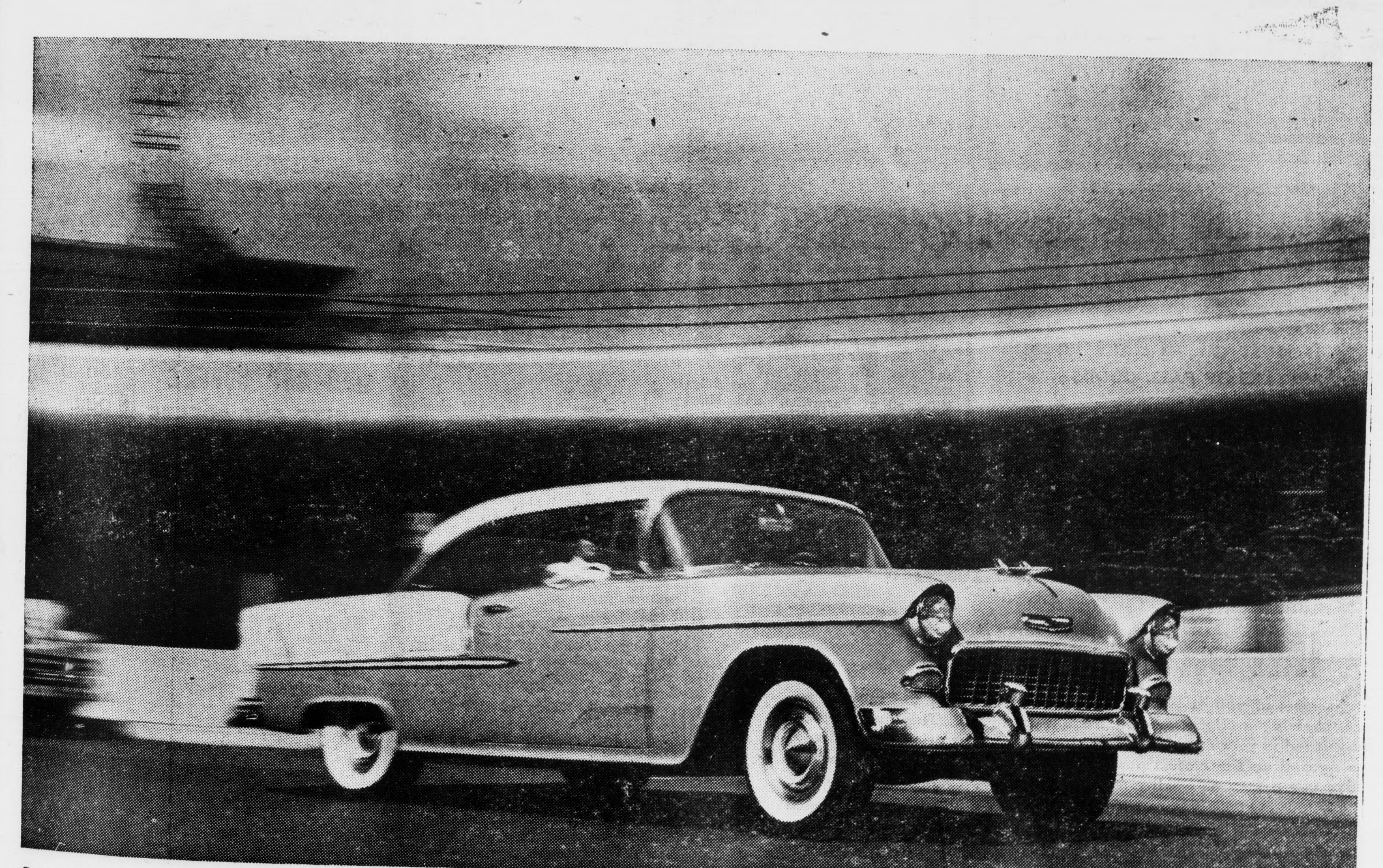

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